

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-7. (Canceled).

8. (New) A chair comprising:

a base on which at least one seat frame and at least one backrest frame are hinged; and  
a chair synchronization mechanism having at least one stiffening spring positioned directly between said base and said backrest frame, and a device to adjust the stiffness of said at least one spring including structure to move one end of said at least one spring with respect to its other end, said structure comprising at least one cam element provided to said base, said cam element being positionable to act on the end to be moved of said at least one spring, the other end of said at least one spring being directly linked to said backrest frame,

wherein said structure comprises at least one connecting rod, hinged at one end to said base and engaged, at its other end, with the end to be moved of said at least one spring, and wherein said cam element is movable relative to and engages with said at least one connecting rod.

9. (New) A chair according to claim 8, wherein said cam element is operated by using a control stem linked in rotation to said base.

10. (New) A chair according to claim 8, wherein said stiffening spring is a helical spring.
11. (New) A chair according to claim 8, wherein said chair synchronization mechanism comprises at least one movable striker element to anchor the end to be moved of said at least one spring.
12. (New) A chair according to claim 11, in which said movable striker element is linked in rotation to the end not hinged on said base of said connecting rod.
13. (New) A chair according to claim 8, wherein said at least one spring is arranged along an axis substantially parallel to horizontal.